

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: P. Bonutti

Confirmation No.:

Application No.: To be Assigned
(Continuation of App No. 10/005,652)
Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit:
Examiner:
Attorney Docket No.: 780-A04-002-1

For: MAGNETIC SUTURING SYSTEM AND METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

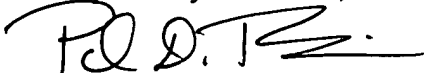
A revised Form PTO/SB/08 listing all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration is enclosed. Copies of the listed documents from prior Application No. 10/005,652, filed December 2, 2001, of which this application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are not being submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) before the latter of three months after the U.S. patent application filing date or the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Dated: Feb. 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete If Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	780-A04-002-1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	4,597,379		Kihn et al	07-01-86	
	AB	4,621,640		Mulhollan et al	11-11-86	
	AC	4,957,498		Caspari et al	09-18-90	
	AD	5,281,235		Haber et al	01-25-94	
	AE	5,258,007		Spetzler et al	11-02-93	
	AF	5,417,701		Holmes	05-23-95	
	AG	5,496,335		Thomason et al.	03-05-96	
	AH	5,556,402		Xu	09-17-96	
	AI	5,649,955		Hashimoto	07-22-97	
	AJ	5,776,151		Chan	07-07-98	
	AK	5,899,911		Carter	05-04-99	
	AL	5,925,064		Meyers et al	07-20-99	
	AM	5,947,982		Duran	09-07-99	
	AN	6,099,550		Yoon	08-08-00	
	AO	6,159,224		Yoon	12-12-00	
	AP	6,231,592		Bonutti et al	05-15-01	
	AQ	6,238,395		Bonutti	05-29-01	
	AR	6,287,325		Bonutti	09-11-01	
	AS	6,340,365		Dittrich et al	01-22-02	
	AT	6,551,304		Whalen	04-22-03	
	AU	6,594,517		Nevo	07-15-03	

Examiner	Date Considered
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIP Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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